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NEW CLAIMS

(68)

1. Orthopaedic device, in particular a prosthesis or an orthosis, for the purpose of replacing respectively supporting the function of at least one part of a human limb with a pivotable joint, for example a leg with a knee or an arm with an elbow, on either side of which joint there extend
5 respective limb parts, such as a lower leg and an upper leg respectively a lower arm and an upper arm, which device comprises:

10 a structure comprising two substantially rigid parts, for instance two rods, which parts are coupled to each other by means of hinge means and each comprise fastening means for optional temporary fastening to a limb part,

wherein a pivot axis of the hinge means extends at least more or less in the region and in the direction of the pivot axis zone of the relevant joint,

15 said fastening means being at least partly provided with friction-reducing means on at least the side to be brought into contact with the relevant limb part,

characterized in that

20 the friction-reducing means comprise a number of freely rotatable elements, such as rollers or balls.

2. Device as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

said structure is provided on only one side with hinge means.

25 3. Device as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the fastening means comprise divisible flexible rings with adjustable periphery.

4. Device as claimed in claim 1,

30 characterized by

at least one additional ring with adjustable periphery, which ring is connected or can be connected to a structural part and is free of friction-reducing means.

5. Device as claimed in claim 4,

35 characterized in that

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the additional ring is coupled or can be coupled to a ring provided with friction-reducing means by means of an optionally adjustable tensioner extending in longitudinal direction, for example a cord, a draw spring or an elastic strap.

6. Device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the device is a knee orthosis.

7. Device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the device is a knee-ankle-foot orthosis.

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